

**FUEL CELLS WITH APPLIED STRESS AND METHODS OF
IMPLEMENTING THE SAME**

ABSTRACT OF DISCLOSURE

[0032] A fuel cell assembly comprises a stress inducer for inducing a planar compressive stress, typically at least one stress inducer, in some embodiments, to at least one of an anode layer, a cathode layer and an electrolyte layer interposed therebetween, constructed from brittle layers having a higher fracture strength in compression than in tension. More particularly, the present technique provides a stress inducer for inducing the planar compressive stress to at least one of those brittle layers.